one third of the cancers can be cured with a high percentage of survival, if detected early, the emphasis of cancer research has been on primary prevention of tobacco related cancer and secondary prevention of cancer of uterine cervix. The preventive measures include educating the masses, statutory warning on cigarette packets and advertisements, promulgation of laws by several State Governments, prohibiting somking in closed areas like cinemas, buses, educational institutions etc.

Telephone connection for occupational therapists

1902. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the occupational therapists have represented for telephone connection in their rehabilitation Centres under the special category rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the Government propose to consider their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Theft, pilferage at Bombay port

1903. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thefts, pilferages and mixing of import-export consignments at Bombay Port continue to be unabated; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to stop this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) To put an effective check on the thefts and other crimes in the Bombay Port which though they continue to occur has shown a tendency to decline, the following steps have been taken:—

(i) Police department has stepped up its preventive action under various sections of Bombay Police Act, Criminal Procedure Code and National Security Act.

(ii) The powers under Section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code have recently been delegated to the Divisional Assistant Commissioners of police to have an effective check on the criminal as also on the receivers of stolen property.

Spread of virus diseases among children in Delhi

1904. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new virus has spread in Delhi affecting the children severely;

(b) whether apart from medical attention, Government propose to publicise the preventive/precautionary measure through Radio/Television/leading newspapers that can be helpful to those who are not affected by the disease yet;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what other steps Government propose to take for eradicating this new virus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No report has been received regarding spread of a new virus in Delhi affecting children.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Encephalitis death in West Bengal

1905. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that encephalitis has staged a come back in a big way in the country;

(b) whether as many as 121 persons have died of this disease in West Bengal;

(c) if so, the reports about the incidence of this disease in other States;

(d) whether the disease requires immediate medical attention and medicines for its cure are imported from abroad;

(e) whether sufficient medicine is available in the country; and

(f) if so, whether they have been made available to the affected States; and if not, the steps Government propose to make available the medicines as also to contain the spread of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) According to the reports received from the State Health authorities, 1101 cases and 414 deaths have been reported during 1987 as details given below:

State	Cases	Deaths
Assam	225	115
Andhra Pradesh	18	13
Bihar	201	73
Goa	1	..
Karnataka	57	20
Manipur	33	..
Nagaland	1	..
Tamil Nadu	47	19
Uttar Pradesh	50	32
West Bengal	468	142
	1101	414

(d) to (f) Japanese Encephalitis is an acute illness with fever and needs immediate medical attention. There is no specific anti-vital medicine for treatment of this disease. However, symptomatic treatment is given with common medicines and, hence, no medicine is required to be imported. The required medicines are available in all health care institutions in the country.

The specific measures being taken to contain the spread of the disease include:

1. Insecticidal spray with DDT/BHC in an area of 2-3 Km. around a case wherever reported.

2. National Institute of Virology, Pune, School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Calcutta and National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi are involved in the programme for advice/diagnosis of cases.

3. BHC|DDT and Malathion are supplied by NMEP for control of Japanese Encephalitis.

4. Fogging/ULV machines are supplied by NMEP to the affected States.

5. Health education on Japanese Encephalitis has been intensified and necessary guidelines have been issued to all States/Union territories to contain the disease.

Shifting of wagon loading service from Tilak Bridge Railway siding

1906. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for shifting of Railway wagon loading service from Tilak Bridge Railway siding, Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what will be the financial implications involved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no siding called Tilak Bridge Railway siding.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.